



BLACK SHEEP NEWS

October 2011

www.blacksheepweavers.com

Preserving the rich history of the Hartland Weavers and Cromaine Crafts

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Another year of fiber, friends and fun has gotten off to a great start. It was good to see so many new faces as well as familiar ones. And what a diverse and talented display of fiber art was shared! As always I encourage each of you to participate in Show and Tell. It's how we learn from each other.

The October meeting looks to be an interesting one. On the business side, remember your dues must be paid if you plan to be in the Holiday sale, bring along any thoughts, concerns or questions about the spring sale location and don't forget the bargains on the free table. And I am looking forward to Susie Krage's program on surface design. I understand she is a noted figure in the surface design world. So mark your calendar and plan to energize your creativity by spending an evening with your fiber friends.

Annette Shaffer

LIBRARY NEWS

We have good books, magazines and videos in our collection. The hard part has been getting things out where you can see them. I'm going to put new acquisitions and parts of the collection out each meeting to make it easier for you to take items out.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me: Mary Bajcz 248-685-9015, mary@megatechnologies.com

BLACK SHEEP BOARD MEMBERS

President: Annette Shaffer 517.548.2335
1st Vice President: . Veronica Straus and Amy Stevenson
Workshops: open
Secretary: Jacqueline Deradoorian 248.685.3192
Treasurer/Membership: .Nadine Cloutier 810.229.0869
MLH Rep:Mary Underwood 734.662.7134
Hospitality Chair: Pam Holloway and Donna Borton
Historian/Librarian: Mary Bajcz 248.685.9015
Publicity: Linda Lundstrum
Newsletter Editor: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis
Webmaster: Deborah Kellogg-Lewis 517.861.9008

OCTOBER PROGRAM

October's Meeting features Susie Krage who will present "Simply Scrumptious Design", a power point presentation of examples of a wide variety of contemporary surface design by many artists, both national and international. It is a colorful and inspiring melange of the best and latest work in surface design. The presentation includes scores of examples of art cloth, beading, weavings, coiled basketry, batik, mixed media and paper and metal cloth.

Susie is a surface design artist who has lived all over the world and acknowledges the influences of Russia, Boliva, Ecudaor. Taiwan and Mexico. She has taught, lectured and exhibited internationally and in 2010, she completed the 3 year Art Cloth Mastery program through Art Cloth Studios in San Antonio, Texas.

Holiday Sale Instructions

Sale tags and inventory sheet instruction will take place at 6:00 Thurs., Oct. 6. This is before the regular meeting. If you intend to sell and have not participated in a Black Sheep sale before, this instruction will be important. If your tags and/or inventory sheet are not done correctly when you bring your items to the sale check-in, you will be required to redo them. If you have participated before but would like a refresher course, please attend. Bring your membership booklet. It has instructions and you will be able to follow along.

Jacqueline "tag" Gilbert

SPRING FLING SALE BUSINESS

At the September meeting, there was some concern about how the discussion and vote for changing the location of the Spring Sale was handled. I will hopefully clarify the vote and allow time for discussion at the October meeting. A vote will then be held at the November meeting. However the Guild still needs a volunteer to chair the Spring Sale. Please consider taking on this job. No chair, no sale.

MLH

MLH (Michigan League of Handweavers) News:

Several MLH positions are open. Please consider volunteering for: education chair, historian, publicity, or parliamentarian.

Newsletter renewal dates were printed on the address labels of your swatch newsletter. Please check to be sure your membership is current. July 1 was the renewal date.

Individuals and study groups, as well as guilds, are encouraged to submit a swatch. Entries of woven, felted, handspun, hand dyed, etc. are welcome. Newly approved is a year's MLH membership paid to either guilds or individuals for doing swatches, in addition to reimbursement for supplies.

Marie Gile has sorted and saved on CD MLH slides going back to 1959. Fun viewing for a group or for a meeting. MLH no longer has a video library. All videos have been sold as they weren't being used.

The next MLH newsletter deadline is Oct. 15. Contact Cindy Greenfelder: cgreenfelder@att.net.

Convergence 2012 will be in Long Beach, CA. See the HGA website for more information.

MLH Biennial Fiber Show 2012

The show will be held at the Ella Sharp Museum in Jackson April 21 through June 16.

MLH will be providing monetary awards for Best of Show in Functional Fibers and Best of Show in Fiber Art. Guilds are asked to donate a gift certificate, cash, or merchandise to provide second place, third place, and honorable mention awards. All donors will be listed in the show program and will receive a list of all artists with works accepted into the show. Please consider putting your work into this show.



**Deadline for submissions to the newsletter
is the 20th of each month.**

Send submissions to

deborahkellew@comcast.net

Please put **Black Sheep Newsletter** in the
subject line.



Kathy McMinn

For as long as I can remember, I have had some sort of needle work project going. It started with stamped cross stitch samplers, and moved on through crewel, needle point, sewing, knitting and counted cross stitch. We were lucky enough to live in England for a few years, and through community ed classes I learned the beginnings of bobbin lace. When I came back from England, my mom had started basket weaving classes and gave me a basket. When I asked for another, her response was to make it myself. I have been weaving baskets for 26 years.

The love of baskets led me to open The Basket Sampler four years ago. There has been a basket weaving shop in Highland for about 30 years, and hopefully we can keep it going for many more. We offer classes for adults, kids and groups in both baskets and bobbin lace. You can often find someone trying something different at the shop....weaving hand spun yarns into baskets, miniature baskets, gourd work, bead work, and what ever else catches our eyes. One summer we all made goose feather Christmas trees instead of weaving baskets (just for a change). After all the years of weaving, I am still not bored with baskets...it seems as though there is always a new technique or material that can be learned. My 4 year old granddaughter has already made several baskets, so maybe The Basket Sampler will stay around for many more years.

With the arrival of grandkids, knitting came back into my life. I have made a lot of baby things, but have decided that socks are my favorite things to knit. I have always had a sock fetish and what better way to feed that than making some crazy socks of your own! I am not very good, or fast, at knitting them, but really love to see them take shape. I have also enjoyed the few knitted lace pieces I have made. The bobbin lace piece I am working on is very fine and small, so I appreciate being able to make knitted lace in a somewhat larger scale. Knitting also has the advantage of being more portable than either baskets or lace, so it's a great thing to do when I am not at the shop!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inclement Weather Meeting Cancellation Policy

If Hartland schools close due to inclement weather, the meeting will be cancelled. If the weather worsens as the day goes along, a decision will be made at 4:00pm. At that time, check your email, the Black Sheep Weavers website or call a Board member to see if the meeting will be held.

“Free Table” at Meetings

If cleaning out a closet or sorting thru a drawer, you find you have any kind of fiber or craft item(s) you wish to give away for free, you may bring them to a meeting. Please however, if your items are not taken, be responsible for taking them back. Last month all the free items were donated by past Guild President, Pam McCormick, who now lives in Martha's Vineyard. If you would like to thank her or just say “Hi” her contact info is PO BOX 1318, West Tisbury, MA, 02575, cell 810-333-6243, email: epifine@gmail.com. At the October meeting there will be some bolt fabric, \$1 per yard, and some miscellaneous items for sale, also from Pam. Please bring small bills if you think you might be interested.

Surface Design Association

Susie Krage, the Michigan representative to the Surface Design Association recently announced that Susan Trovillion is the new Michigan Ambassador to SDA. If you have any questions about SDA, Susan will do her best to answer them or contact someone who can. Susan can also put information on the SDA blog and has already posted a ‘Save the Date’ announcement about the Holiday Sale. Susan will also report on any news that SDA has published.

Finding Mona: Artist Studio & Gallery Tour at HVCA

Oakland County residents have the chance to see the work of artists in their own studios as well as local galleries, thanks to a new fundraiser presented by Huron Valley Council for the Arts. The event starts at HVCA's gallery and offices, 205 W. Livingston Rd. in Highland, moving on to 19 different local galleries and studios. Music as well as artist demonstrations, including spinning, knitting and portraiture are featured at selected gallery and studio tour “stops.” Those on the tour also will have the chance to meet many of the artists whose work is displayed. Items displayed at the studios and galleries include a wide range of fine art pieces, jewelry, paintings, craftwork, hand-painted ornaments, fiber art, textiles, leather work, hand-woven baskets, mixed media, photography and various hand-crafted gift items.

Tickets are on sale now for Finding Mona: Artist Studio & Gallery Tour at HVCA 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. October 15, 2011.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and free for children who are 11 or younger.

Association of MI Basketweavers 2011 Convention

Visitors days-Friday and Saturday October 14 and 15 from 10am to 5:30pm each day.

Causeway Bay Lansing
6820 South Cedar Street
Lansing, MI 48911

Great opportunity to see some wonderful baskets in the exhibit room and shop the vendors. Lansing is the closest the convention has been in many years, so it's a good time to see what basketmakers are doing.

<http://www.michiganbasketmakers.com>

FIFTH ANNUAL FIBER EXPO SHOW

Join Us for Family Fun at the Fifth Annual Fiber Expo Show
October 22 & 23, 2011

Saturday 9:00am—5:00pm Sunday 10:00 am — 5:00 pm
\$4 admission - one day \$6 admission - two days
(children under 5 free)

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

For Directions:

<http://www.washtenawfarmcouncil.org/directions.htm>

Attend Classes to Learn a New Skill

Visit the Vendors, Start Your Christmas Shopping Early

Talk to Breeders About Their Fiber Animals

Check us out at: www.fiberexpo.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM

Please complete the following and bring to a meeting or mail to:

Nadine Cloutier, Treasurer/Membership

Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild

P O Box 409 Hartland, MI 48353

Name _____

Birthday Month _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Dues: \$25 US/year for full membership
(Dues expire in August the following year)

Make checks payable to:

BLACK SHEEP WEAVERS FIBER GUILD

10 CREATIVE TIPS FOR TOUGH TIMES

adapted from Cloth Paper Scissor newsletter

Times are tough for a lot of people, so here are some suggestions for free and economical ways we can improve our skills, expand our artistic repertoire and score some no or low cost supplies.

1. Share you knowledge. Quilt guilds have been doing this forever. Get together with like-minded artists once a month and each person takes a turn teaching a skill, sharing resources and critiquing each other's artwork.
2. Share your supplies. Find a member who has tried a technique (ex. papermaking) and has supplies and then offer to trade or loan unopened supplies you have (knitting) to get them started.
3. Work with what you have. Try something you have always wanted to do, but use what you have on hand working through the challenge.
4. Use the force....the Internet community. Read Interweave Press, Cloth Paper Scissors or Quilting Arts forums. Just Google and click away.
5. Shop for Free stuff online. Craigslist.org, freecycle.org and many other sites often list craft and art supplies that are free to a good home... like yours!
6. Visit a recycling center. No Internet? No problem! Check out places like the Scrap Box in Ann Arbor or ask a teacher where all the good free supplies are stashed.
7. Look to nature. Mother Nature provides supplies, tools ad learning opportunities all the time. You can print or dye with leaves, flowers and vegetables, study color theory by viewing a garden, learn about patterns from bark and leaves.
8. Sketch and doodle. Just put a pencil or pen to paper and it is free. Experiment with different pens and pencils to see how thickness, value, shading change the effects of what you are drawing.
9. Watch "how-to" videos/DVDs. Check these out at your library. Guild library, watch artist videos on YouTube and the Internet. Even Cloth Paper Scissors has a video gallery to watch.
10. Learn and do in small bites. Review articles in magazines, buy a small starter kit, and watch selected episodes of DVDs or Quilting Arts TV. Check your cable service guide.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 BLACK SHEEP BOARD MEETING

Meeting called to order 5:15pm by president.

Board Members Present: Annette Shaffer (Edna Sprunk), Veronica Straus (Amy Stevenson), Jacqueline Deradoorian, Nadine Cloutier, Cheri Skomra (Pam Holloway and Donna Borton), Mary Bajcz, Linda Lundstrom

Programs

Veronica Straus has all program dates for 2011-2012 filled except one (which will leave open in case of a snow day). We are taking suggestion for 2012-2013.

Workshops

Edna Sprunk will be polling members to find out what workshops the membership wants.

Secretary

June's meeting minutes (posted on website) to be approved by general membership at general meeting.

Treasurer

Nadine presented general budget and holiday sale budget which will be presented at general meeting for approval. Monies from sales needed in order to maintain guild.

Publicity

Linda Lundstrom will be getting advertising contacts from Nadine Cloutier and the email list from Susan Trovillion.

MLH

Report in newsletter.

Hospitality

Pam Holloway and Donna Borton are the new hospitality board members.

Librarian

Mary Bajcz will ask membership if we should continue with Spinoff and Handweavers magazines.

Newsletter/Webmistress

Submissions for newsletter must be by the 20th of the month. Black Sheep Newsletter must be in subject line.

New Business

Need to set date for Spring Fling. Mary Bajcz will double check dates and activities going on at the HVCA to make sure there are not conflicts.

Board meeting adjourned 615p.

Minutes submitted by Jacqueline Deradoorian (Secretary)

SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 BLACK SHEEP GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Meeting called to order 7:05pm by president.

In Attendance

Board Members: Annette Shaffer (Edna Sprunk), Veronica Straus (Amy Stevenson), Jacqueline Deradoorian, Nadine Cloutier, Cheri Skomra (Pam Holloway and Donna Borton), Mary Bajcz, Linda Lundstrom, Mary Underwood; General Membership and 7 guests.

Programs

Veronica Straus has all program dates for 2011-2012 filled except one (which will leave open in case of a snow day). Workshops will be listed in newsletter. We are taking suggestion for 2012-2013.

Workshops

Edna Sprunk will be polling members to find out what workshops the membership wants.

Secretary

A motion was made by Veronica Straus and Pat Thompson (second) to approve June's meeting minutes (posted on website). Minutes approved by all.

A motion was made by Cheri Skomra and Jan Bhavsar (second) to approve the slate of officers for 2011-2012. We forgot to have the official vote in June. The slate of officers was approved by all.

Treasurer

Nadine presented the 2011 -2012 general budget and holiday sale budget to the membership. A motion was made by Edna Spunk and Nancy Lopez (second) to approve the budgets. The budgets were approved by all.

Publicity

Linda Lundstrom has found from her own experience that the majority of people find out about "fiber" events through word of mouth and all of us need to help get the word out about BSW.

MLH

- Memorial event for Alice Griswold at MSU \$25.
- MLH gave a quality conference this summer, several BSW attended.
- BSW Weftovers study group had a nice display at the MLH conference.
- Several positions available on MLH board if any one is interested.

Hospitality

Pam Holloway and Donna Borton introduced 7 new guests/members.

Librarian

Membership wants to continue with Spinoff and Handweaver's magazines.

Newsletter/Webmistress

Submissions for newsletter must be by the 20th of the month. Black Sheep Newsletter must be in subject line.

New Business

Christmas Sale

Darlene Murray and Pat Thompson are chairs for our 29th annual Christmas Sale. They request that we read newsletter for upcoming information about the sale and to also carefully read the guidelines of acceptance.

Sale Tags

Jacqueline Gilbert will be giving a lesson on how to fill the Black Sheep sale tags prior to our regular October General Membership meeting. The tag lesson will begin at 6pm.

Spring Fling Sale

We are trying to keep the Spring Fling on the last weekend of April (Friday and Saturday) unless it happens to be Easter weekend. A motion was made to have the Spring Fling at the HVCA on April 27 and 28, 2011 by Jacqueline Deradoorian and Connie Hydell (second). 1 was opposed to the motion, every one else approved.

Board meeting adjourned 8:20p.

Minutes submitted by Jacqueline Deradoorian (Secretary)



TREASURER'S REPORT

BSWG GENERAL BUDGET FY2011-12

INCOME:

**Carryover balance: \$4,502.00
Apron Sales to members \$36.00 (3/36 at \$12 cost)
Membership dues \$1,600.00 (based on 60 members)

TOTAL \$5,698.00

** Includes proceeds from Holiday and Spring Fling Sales which will be used toward start up costs to run each sale in 2011-12 as well as General Fund expenses.

EXPENSES:

Aprons for sale/sell \$36.00
(3 @\$12 ea cost from 2010-11)
Donations \$150.00
(MLH prize/special requests)
Dues \$100.00
(MLH/HVCA)
Hospitality \$150.00
(member kits/cards, refreshments)
Liability Insurance* \$230.00
(for sales and mtg room split 1/3)
Library \$350.00
(for Guild books, mags video/cd)
Newsletter \$200.00
(print postage-snail mail versions)
PO Box fee \$60.00
(annual renewal)
Programs \$1,200.00
(speaker fee/mileage/supplies)
Room Rent \$200.00
(HCS mtg rm)
Solveras PCI fee \$72.00
(monthly compliance fee)
Website \$125.00
(server fee to host site)
Web domain name \$35.00
(domain name renewal)

TOTAL \$2,908.00

Ending balance \$2,790.00***

*Liability insurance should split costs 3-way HCS mtg room, Holiday sale venue, and Spring Fling venue

***ADD: \$1,500.00 to ending balance from proceeds/profit--Holiday11/Spring Fling12

BSWG checking account ending balance could be \$4,290.00

Approved by Board and Membership 9/8/2011 by vote

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP

TIME TO RENEW DUES

It was great to visit with so many renewing members and also to meet several NEW members. We had 32 members renew at the September meeting and 5 new members join us. New membership cards were distributed when dues were paid. Artist ID numbers will be issued to the NEW members soon.

Don't forget that your membership in BSWG expired on August 31, 2011. It is now time to RENEW YOUR DUES for 2011-12. Remember, to be eligible to participate in the December Holiday Sale your dues MUST BE PAID on or before the October 6 meeting. BSWG is set up to accept either a check or cash for your dues.

When your dues are paid on time, we get the needed revenue to conduct business, to assign ID numbers for the sale, create new name tags and get the new roster out to the membership by November.

If you renew you dues by mail, please introduce yourself to me at the meeting.

BSWG Roster and Request for Information on teaching

I will be updating the roster after the October meeting to have it ready for the November meeting with all new members added and Artist ID numbers assigned. In addition, we are also requesting that if you have an art technique that you wish to teach or offer workshops to the Guild, let us know. We are going to add another column to the Excel document to include this information. Please let Edna Sprunk know on her Workshop survey coming out or email her at edna@sprunk.org. or me at nadinecloutier@comcast.net. We have a tremendous amount of talent in our group and it seems the consensus of the Guild is to have more hands on activities and workshops.

Be sure and see me if you have moved, have a new email address or any other changes to your information. When everyone has given me their changes, and all dues are paid promptly, I can then finalize the roster for distribution. We do not post it on the website.



Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild
PO Box 409
Hartland, MI 48353

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Fostering a spirit of creativity in the arts through our hands, hearts and our fascination with fiber. The Black Sheep Weavers Fiber Guild is committed to continue the advancement and love for fiber arts

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| September 8 – Members’ Showcase of Current Works | February 2 – Donna Borton, “Stitch Alchemy” |
| October 6 – Susie Krage, Surface Design | March 1 – Mad Hatter’s & Artist’s Garage Sale |
| November 3 – Hollie Archdale, Today’s Crochet | April 5 – Evelyn Gibbons, The “Button Lady” |
| December 2 & 3 – 29th Annual Holiday Sale | Spring Sale - TBA |
| December 8 – Guild Holiday Potluck & Ornament Exchange | May 3 - TBA |
| January 5 – Kathy McMinn, Folded and Waxed Paper Stars | June 7 – Year End Potluck |

Black Sheep Weavers Meeting Location

Science Room of Hartland Consolidated Schools Educational Support Service Center (The Old High School),
9525 Highland Road (M-59), Hartland, MI, 3/4 miles West of US 23
Social Starts 6:30 PM • Meeting about 7:00 PM